



# Brownfields 2008 Grant Fact Sheet

## Pine Bluff, AR

### EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under this law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

### Community Description

The City of Pine Bluff was selected to receive two brownfields assessment grants. Located in southeast Arkansas, Pine Bluff (population 55,085) lies in the heart of a rich agricultural area and also has a diverse industrial base. This base includes industries producing metal, electrical equipment, and paper products. Due to suburban sprawl and a declining population, this once thriving city along the Arkansas River has lost several industrial and commercial businesses, particularly within the city's central sector. About 66 percent of Pine Bluff's residents are African-American, and the city's unemployment rate is 8.2 percent. Brownfields are a blighting influence on the city's lower-income areas. Assessment of brownfields is expected to revive interest in real estate development and construction.



### Assessment Grants

**\$200,000 for hazardous substances**  
**\$200,000 for petroleum**

EPA has selected the City of Pine Bluff for two brownfields assessment grants. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to conduct a brownfields inventory and up to 18 Phase I and up to three Phase II environmental site assessments. Grant funds also will be used to support community outreach activities. Petroleum grant funds will be used to conduct the same tasks at sites with potential petroleum contamination.

### Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: [www.epa.gov/brownfields](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields).

EPA Region 6 Brownfields Team  
214-665-6780  
<http://www.epa.gov/region6/brownfields>

Grant Recipient: City of Pine Bluff, AR  
870-543-1820

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the grant proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement for the grant has not yet been negotiated. Therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.